been conducted for ascertaining the number of working children in Delhi. Labour Department, Government of NCT of Delhi has no scheme for rehabilitation of working children.

Government of India is implementing two schemes for rehabilitation of Child Labourers namely the scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) and a Grant-in-aid scheme under which three Non-Government Organisations in Delhi are being funded to take up projects for rehabilitation of child labour.

The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 is applicable to all States/UTs in the country including the NCT of Delhi.

Unemployment in the country

573. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unemployment is growing at an alarming rate in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve the employment opportunities in the country;

(c) what is the effect of the disinvestment policy on the employment situation in the industries and PSUs; and

(d) what is the number of persons registered in the various employment exchanges in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) As per the survey carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation during 1993-94 and 1999-2000 there has been a slight increase in the unemployment rate during 1999-2000 as compared to the unemployment rate during 1993-94 as per Usual Principal and Subsidiary Status Approach.

(b) The planning for employment generation is a part of the five-year Plans. The Approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to productive employment which will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterized by higher rates of unemployment and under-employment.

Government is also implementing special programmes for eradication of poverty and generation of employment. The major poverty alleviation programmes, which provide employment in the rural areas, are Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Jawahar Gram Samriddhi Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme. In the urban areas, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) is in operation since 1.12.97, which also seeks to provide gainful employment to the poor. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana is being implemented as a Central Plan Scheme to provide employment opportunities to educated unemployed youths in both rural and urban areas.

(c) All decisions of the Government relating to disinvestment do not automatically have a direct impact on the jobs of the employees of the concerned public sector undertakings. When the decision involves the transfer of management control of the company, the issues related to the employees assume importance. In such cases, these concerns are appropriately addressed in the terms and conditions of sale and adequate provisions are made in the transaction documents signed with the strategic partner. The Policy of disinvestment includes protection of the interests of employees.

(d) State-wise details of number of job seekers on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges all of whom are not necessarily unemployed as on 30.4.2001 is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Details of job-seekers not employed as on 31.4.2001

S.No	State/Union Territory	Number of job-seekers on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges as on 30.4.2001. (In Thousands)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3174.6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21.9
3.	Assam	1441.3
4.	Bihar	1856.4
5.	Chhattisgarh	792.4

S.No	State/Union Territory	Number of job-seekers on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges as on 30.4.2001. (In Thousands)
1	2	3
6.	Delhi	996.2
7.	Goa	102.7
8.	Gujarat	1073.9
9.	Haryana	755.2
10.	Himachal Pradesh	898.1
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	167.1
12.	Jharkhand	1496.4
13.	Karnataka	1963.4
14.	Kerala	4177.6
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1731.1
16.	Maharashtra	4313.9
17.	Manipur	395.9
18.	Meghalaya	35.6
19.	Mizoram	86.8
20.	Nagaland	37.4
21.	Orissa	935.0
22.	Punjab	523.4
23.	Rajasthan	784.0
24.	Sikkim*	—
25.	Tamil Nadu	4667.4
26.	Tripura	307.7
27.	Uttaranchal	289.9
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1939.0
29.	West Bengal	5954.5
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	31.0
31.	Chandigarh	91.6
32.	D & N Haveli	4.9

Note:—*No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

1	2	3
33.	Daman & Diu	7.5
34.	Lakshadweep	10.6
35.	Pondicherry	132.3
	TOTAL:	41196.7

Meeting of Labour Ministers

574. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are calling a meeting of all the State Labour Ministers for the implementation of the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996; and

(b) whether it is not mandatory for the State Governments to implement these Central Acts and to frame rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 (Main Act) and the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996 extend to the whole of India. However, Section 63 of the Main Act provides that nothing contained in this Act shall affect the operation of any corresponding law in a State providing welfare schemes which are more beneficial to the building and other construction workers than those provided under the Act. The power to frame rules under the Main Act lies with the appropriate Government.

Launching of Khetihar Mazdoor Bima Yojana

575. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a social security cover namely Khetihar Mazdoor Bima Yojana for the landless agricultural workers has been launched; and